

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A diffuser for placement in front of a sound wave emission side of a cone-shaped sound source, the diffuser comprising:

a first flow plate positioned along a sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the first flow plate having a wall tapered inwardly in the sound wave emission direction, the wall of the first flow plate being positioned outside of an area defined by the cone-shaped sound source and dimensioned so as to allow sound waves emitted from the cone-shaped sound source to pass on both sides of the wall; and

a second flow plate positioned adjacent the first flow plate along the sound wave emission direction, the second flow plate having a wall tapered outwardly in the sound wave emission direction, and the first flow plate being located within an area defined by the wall of the second flow plate.

20. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first flow plate is a tapered cone shape.

21. – 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim ~~[[25]]~~ 19, wherein the ~~outer~~ second flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined away from each.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A diffuser for placement in front of a sound wave emission side of a cone-shaped sound source, the diffuser comprising:

a first flow plate positioned along a sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the first flow plate having a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being larger than the second opening, the first opening of the first flow plate being positioned outside of an area defined by the cone-shaped sound source, and the first flow plate being dimensioned so as to allow sound waves emitted from the cone-shaped sound source to pass on both sides of the ~~wall~~ first flow plate; and

a second flow plate positioned adjacent the first flow plate along the sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the second flow plate having a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being larger than the second opening, the first opening of the second flow plate being positioned outside of an area defined by the cone-shaped sound source, and the second flow plate being dimensioned so as to allow sound waves emitted from the cone-shaped sound source to pass on both sides of the second flow plate.

29. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the first flow plate is a tapered cone shape.

30. – 32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the first flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The diffuser as claimed in claim ~~[[34]]~~ 28, wherein the ~~outer~~ second flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined ~~away from~~ towards each other.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) A speaker comprising:
a sound source having a sound wave emission side; and
a diffuser according to claim 19 located in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source.

38. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 37, further comprising a protective net disposed in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source, the diffuser being fixed to the protective net.

39. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 38, wherein the diffuser is fixed in front of the protective net, behind the protective net, or both in front of and behind the protective net.

40. (Previously presented) A speaker comprising:
a sound source having a sound wave emission side; and
a diffuser according to claim 28 located in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source.

41. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 40, further comprising a protective net disposed in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source, the diffuser being fixed to the protective net.

42. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 41, wherein the diffuser is fixed in front of the protective net, behind the protective net, or both in front of and behind the protective net.